

# BUG BULLETIN

THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT HEALTH PROTECTION IN WESTERN SYDNEY LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT

THE BUG BULLETIN IS NOW AVAILABLE AS A DIGITAL NEWSLETTER AND WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE IN HARDCOPY.

If you would like to subscribe to the mailing list, please email [WSLHD-CentreForPopulationHealth@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:WSLHD-CentreForPopulationHealth@health.nsw.gov.au)

## Immunisation



2017 Vaccines Offered to Refugee Students in Intensive English Centres

AGE	MENINGOCOCCAL ACWY	POLIO	HPV	HEPATITIS B	MMR	dTpa (BOOSTRIX)	VARICELLA <14 YRS
12 - <14 Year Refugee		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
14 - 16 Year Refugee		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
17 - 18 Year Refugee	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	
19 - 20 Year Refugee		YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	

### IMPROVED REFUGEE VACCINATIONS OFFERED IN INTENSIVE ENGLISH CENTRES (IEC)

NSW Health is expanding the vaccines offered to refugee students attending Intensive English Centres, through the Public Health Unit School Vaccination team, to assist in bridging the gap in refugee vaccination catch-ups. Recently arrived, non-English speaking refugees between the ages of 12 and 20 years are regularly enrolled at IEC's for up to 12 months.

The School Vaccination team visit IEC's six times per year. Parents/guardians are required to complete written consent forms if they wish their child to receive vaccines at school. To ensure accurate catch-up planning, all student vaccination histories are checked on Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) prior to each vaccination clinic. For any vaccines provided, data is uploaded to AIR, including any overseas records provided by parents. For students who have undertaken serological testing, the Public Health Unit is NOT able to upload Medical Exception Forms; this service is only available to GP's.

For students who commence a course of vaccines in IEC's but leave before completion, the Public Health Unit will send letters to parents advising them of the vaccines required and to attend their GP for receiving these vaccines. Please check on AIR before providing any further vaccines, or if unsure contact us at the Public Health Unit.

#### Centre for Population Health

Parramatta Office  
Gungurra (Building 68)  
Cumberland Campus

Locked Bag 7118  
Parramatta BC, NSW 2124

Phone (02) 9840 3603

Fax (02) 9840 3608

Email [WSLHD-CentreForPopulationHealth@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:WSLHD-CentreForPopulationHealth@health.nsw.gov.au)

Director, Centre for Population Health  
A/Prof Stephen Corbett



If you have any suggestions or stories to share please contact the ID team on **02 9840 3603**

**In addition:** All refugees between 12 and up to 26 years are now eligible to receive a 3-dose HPV course, please follow the link to 'Additional vaccines provided free in NSW' [http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/gp\\_catchup.aspx](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/gp_catchup.aspx)

For information on Year 7, 11 & 12 school vaccinations, please see the March 2017 edition of Bug Bulletin.

## 2017 Vaccine Doses Offered to Refugee Students in Intensive English Centres

<b>dTpa (BOOSTRIX)</b>	Offered 1 dose
<b>HEPATITIS B</b>	Offered 2 doses (adult dose – 0 & 4 months)
	Students starting course >16 years need - 3rd dose (paediatric) from GP 5 months after 2nd dose
<b>MMR</b>	Offered 2 doses (0 & 1 month)
<b>VARICELLA</b>	Students under 14 years - 1 dose only
<b>MenACWY</b>	Students aged 17 - 18 years only
<b>HPV</b>	Offered from age 12 - 26 yrs (3 doses, 0, 2 & 6 months)
<b>POLIO</b>	Offered 2 doses (3rd dose at GP if required, 0, 1 & 2 months)

## Communicable diseases

It's that time of year again! Flu season has arrived and just like every year the key to good prevention and management is vaccination, consistent hand hygiene and staying home when sick.

This year there have been some new developments in influenza management:

- New guidelines were released in March from the Communicable Diseases Network Australia on the management of influenza outbreaks in residential care facilities.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-flu-guidelines.htm>

- Questions have been raised about the optimal timing of influenza vaccine to ensure peak immunity occurs during the high risk flu season. The following article has a good summary:

<https://theconversation.com/flu-vaccine-wont-definitely-stop-you-from-getting-the-flu-but-its-more-important-than-you-think-75778>

In general we would advise to aim for influenza vaccination during April to June for a peak influenza season of August to September.

### FIGHT THE FLU!

- 1 VACCINATE**
- 2 PRACTICE GOOD HAND HYGIENE**
- 3 STAY HOME IF SICK**

## Western Sydney Local Health District Community Outreach Hepatology Service

Western Sydney Local Health District is offering a dedicated support program to assist the management and treatment of patients with Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C in the community.

Your practice can benefit from the following services:

- Staff and patient education
- Clinical assessment of your patients
- FibroScan® assessment
- Treatment initiation
- Prescribing advice and support
- Facilitating pathways for complex patients



Would you like to know more?

**Kristen McKee (Stone)**

Hepatology Clinical Nurse Consultant

Storr Liver Centre, Westmead Hospital

0407 141 139

WSLHD-HepatologyService@health.nsw.gov.au

